

Senate Joint Resolution No. 26

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 107

Senate Joint Resolution No. 26—Relative to Naval Air Facility El Centro.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 7, 2012.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 26, Vargas. The Naval Air Facility El Centro.

This measure would urge the California delegates of Congress to protect the Naval Air Facility El Centro during any upcoming base realignment and closure processes.

WHEREAS, United States Secretary of Defense, Leon Panetta, recently released the 2013 fiscal year defense budget proposal which includes a request for new base closures; and

WHEREAS, The Naval Air Facility El Centro (NAF El Centro) might be under consideration for closure in the 2013 or 2015 closure periods; and

WHEREAS, The NAF El Centro provides efficiencies and benefits to the Navy which include, but are not limited to, a strategic location near Marine Corps Air Stations and the naval fleet, proximity to ranges for different types of flights, and carrier training using the Fresnel Lens Optical Landing System and lighted carrier deck landing areas; and

WHEREAS, The El Centro area provides clear weather and unobstructed terrain, which in turn provides ample low-level flying opportunities; and

WHEREAS, No other region in the United States more closely resembles current combat areas of the world; and

WHEREAS, The El Centro area provides a high quality of life for its residents and the NAF El Centro has enjoyed unparalleled community support since the establishment of the base, including support from the County of Imperial Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, Another base closure in California could have a devastating impact on the nation's security; and

WHEREAS, The impact of the closure of the NAF El Centro goes beyond the employment of the base personnel, impacting local small businesses, schools, sales and property tax bases of the local community, the environment, the hospitality industry, the housing market, and the local, regional, and state economies; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature urges the representatives from California to the Congress of the United States to protect the NAF El Centro during any upcoming base realignment and closure processes; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the Secretary of Defense of the United States, to the Majority

Leader of the Senate, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the minority leader of each house, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the author for appropriate distribution.

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